(c) whether it is proposed to disband this committee; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Joint venture proposals in deep sea fishing are considered by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board.

(b) Nine proposals for joint ventures in deep sea fishing have been cleared by the Committee during the current financial year 1993-94 (upto 28.2.1994).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Policy to boost food processing units

2819. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has announced a new policy to boost food processing units in the country;

(b) if so, how many food processing industries have been started in India so far during 1993-94 and how many more such industries are proposed to be set up during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) As per the new Industrial Policy of July, 1991 most of the Food Processing Industries has been granted high priority status. Moreover, most of the Food Processing Industries have been delicensed except the brewing and distillation of alcoholic drinks and those reserved for small scale industries. Consequently, the Food Processing Sector has attracted considerable investment. Till, January, 1994, 2471 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda involving an investmet of over Rs. 31,700 crores have been filed. Out of this 140 units have filed the second memoranda commencing commercial production till January, 1994. Since Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, information in regard to the number of Food Processing Industries Statewise set up during any particular year is not maintained Centrally While the Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up Food Processing Industries directly in any State, the Ministry under its Plan Schemes provides assistance to State Government Organisations, Joint Sector Companies, Cooperative Societies, Voluntary Agencies etc. for setting up|upgrading Food Processing Industries.

Strike by fishing workers' organisations

2820. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether fishermen and other fishing-workers' organisations went on a nation-wide strike on the 4th February, 1994 in protest against Government's deep sea fishing policy involving big multinational firms in deep sea-fishing to the detriment of small fishing companies;

(b) if so, what were their precise demands; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fishermen demanded that deep sea fishing vessels may be allowed to fish only beyond 24 nautical Miles from the shore. The fishermen also demanded cancellation of permissions given under the deep sea fishing policy, among other things.

(c) The matter has been reviewed and it has been decided to constitute an Expert Committee for making an indepth study in consultation with the concerned State Governments and to suggest remedial measures.

Pepsi's Plan to invest in India

2821. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government approved last month PEPSICO's plan for setting up a 100 per cent holding company in India will an investment of dollar 95 million;

(b) if so, in which of the Indian subsidiaries or Joint ventures and other business activities in the area of food processing industries PEPSI will invest; and

(c) whether any part of their profits earned in India will be repatriated to the parent company in U.S.A. if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The holding Company will be directly engaged in the following activities:-

(i) Promotion of new export projects;

(ii) Promotion of new Joint ventures in export activities;

(iii) Investments in Food Processing Industries;

(iv) Investments in backward linkages with farmers by any of the companies of Pepsi co. Ind. in India;

(v) Investments in, Beverage business manufacturing, marketing and distribution;

(vi) Investments in information technology and financial services;

(vii) Investments in technology upgradation.

(c) No repatriation of dividend has been mentioned in the request for setting up this holding company. However, this would be subject to Government rules and regulations.

Food Processing Industry in Andhra Pradesh

2822. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the potential for food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any proposals are pending with the Central Government for clearance to locate food processing units in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, what is the present stage of consideration with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) As considerable potential exists, some 145 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda involving an investment of Rs. 1123 crores and employment to over 30,000 have been filed by the investers for setting up of various food processing units in Andhra Pradesh. In addition, various proposals of joint ventures, export-oriented units, projects requiring industrial licence have also been approved.